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5 March 1946

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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C.I.G. DIRECTIVE

SURVEY OF THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING PRESS
AND PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence,
with the Unanimous Concurrence
of the Intelligence Advisory Board

1. a. During the war the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945.

b. The product of the FBIS was valuable to the State Department, to the intelligence agencies of the War and Navy Departments, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and undoubtedly to other departments and agencies.

c. Since the interim arrangements will cease at the end of the fiscal year 1946, it is essential that the ultimate disposition of former FBIS functions be determined at an early date.

2. By unanimous approval of the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board an ad hoc committee is hereby established to consist of five members, one representing the Director of Central Intelligence and one representing each member of the Intelligence Advisory Board. This committee will promptly make a detailed study of facilities, resources and operations for monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts, and will determine whether this service is of continuing value to existing Federal agencies. Its report will include recommendations as to:

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- a. Which resources, facilities, and operating functions should be continued in the national interest.
 - b. What disposition should be made of preserved resources and facilities and what assignments should be made of responsibility for conducting the preserved operating functions.
 - c. What budgetary arrangements should be made.
3. The committee will submit a report of findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Director of Central Intelligence, who will then prepare suitable recommendations to be submitted to the National Intelligence Authority after obtaining the concurrence or comment of the Intelligence Advisory Board. The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation will be invited to sit as a member of the Intelligence Advisory Board for consideration of these recommendations.

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National Intelligence Authority
Intelligence Advisory Board
Ad Hoc Committee members

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- 2 -

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29 March 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT: Survey of the Function of Monitoring Press and
Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers

REFERENCE: C.I.G. Directive No. ☐

ENCLOSURE: Report of ad hoc committee to survey Foreign
Broadcast Intelligence Service, dated 27 March

1. By C.I.G. Directive No. ☐ an ad hoc committee was established to conduct subject survey. The report of that committee is enclosed herewith for your information.

2. The enclosed report is being studied in the Central Intelligence Group with a view to preparing recommendations which will be subsequently submitted for your consideration.

SIGNED

SIDNEY W. SOUTERS
Director

Enclosure.

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29 March 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING CHIEF, CENTRAL PLANNING STAFF

SUBJECT: Survey of the Function of Monitoring Press
and Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers

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REFERENCES: a. C.I.G. Directive No. ☐

b. Report of ad hoc committee to survey Foreign
Broadcast Intelligence Service, dated 27 March

The report of the ad hoc committee (reference b) is
hereby referred to the Central Planning Staff for review and the
preparation of a draft report to the National Intelligence Au-
thority recommending appropriate action on this subject.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

SIGNED

James S. Lay, Jr.
Secretary, N.I.A.

Enclosure.

JSLay:IH

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6 March 1946

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted] A-2 (Steering Member)
Brig. Gen. Carter W. Clarke, G-2
Mr. John D. Corcoran, State
Captain A. C. J. Sabalot, ONI

SUBJECT: Survey of the Function of Monitoring Press and
Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers.

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INCLOSURE: CIA Directive [redacted]

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1. The inclosed directive is transmitted herewith for appropriate action, pursuant to your designation as the ad hoc committee established by paragraph 2 of the inclosure.

2. [redacted] will serve in the dual capacity of steering member representing the Director of Central Intelligence and as the representative of the Assistant Chief of Air Staff Intelligence.

WILLIAM W. BOWEN
Director

INFORMATION COPIES:

Mr. Alfred McCormack
Lt. Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg
Rear Admiral Thomas B. Inglis
Brig. Gen. George C. McDonald
Acting Chief Central Planning Staff
Secretary, NIA ✓

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6 March 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, Central Planning Staff

SUBJECT: Survey of the Function of Monitoring Press
and Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers

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REFERENCE: CIG Directive

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1. Pursuant to the provisions of the reference directive, as steering member of the ad hoc committee, has been assigned the responsibility for supervising the conduct of the subject survey.

2. It is my intention to refer the report of the ad hoc committee, when submitted, to the Central Planning Staff for review.

SIDNEY W. SOUERS
Director

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INFORMATION COPIES:

Secretary, NIA

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5 March 1946

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- 2 -

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